

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-14, and 19-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-2, 4-10, 21, and 22 are canceled; Claims 3, 11-14, 19, 20, and 23 are amended. Claim 3 is amended to depend upon allowable independent claim 18 and claims 11-14 and 19-20 are amended to depend upon allowable independent claim 15. Claim 23 is a computer program product claim and is amended to contain the allowable subject matter of claims 15 and 18. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

The Final Office Action states that claims 15-18 are allowable. Claim 3 is amended to depend upon allowable independent claim 18 and claims 11-14 and 19-20 are amended to depend upon allowable independent claim 15. Independent claim 23 is a computer program product claim that is amended to contain the same allowable subject matter of claims 15 and 18; therefore, claim 23 is also in condition for allowance. Claim 24 is dependent on independent claim 23, which is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, claims 3, 11-14, 19-20, and 24 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claims 15, 18, and 23, respectively. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims place the subject application in condition for allowance.

II. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited references and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

/Gerald H. Glanzman/

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